

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 20, line 1, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- Furthermore, the computer analyses revealed several hypothetical proteins displaying a structure which is found in cell wall-associated proteins in Gram-positive cocci (Schneewind et al 1995, Ref. 15). At the N-terminal end of these proteins, a signal sequence is found and at the C-terminal end, a motif LPXTG (SEQ ID NO: 28) corresponding to the LPDTG motif (SEQ. ID. NO: 14) of the SEC protein is present, which is followed by a stretch of hydrophobic amino acids ending with a few charged amino acids constituting the membrane-spanning region. These proteins should also be considered as potential targets to be included in an efficient vaccine against *S. equi* infections.--